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Title:

Statement: Opposition's conservative policies

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date..... May 5, 1975

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
228 4811

OPPOSITION'S CONSERVATIVE POLICIES.

A massive campaign of "unparelleled political dishonesty and vituperation" designed to belittle the Labor Movement's national achievements has been launched by the Opposition Parties in Canberra, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today.

He was speaking at the Cairns (Queensland) Labor Day March.

He said that the campaign had immense financial backing from some of the country's leading financial institutions.

He told the marchers that the Labor Movement must ensure that the campaign did not succeed and reverse the social progress the country was presently making.

"Since having lost power in Canberra, the conservative parties had constantly sought to foment national disunity and had constantly exaggerated economic instability".

"They have distorted statistics so that the legitimate wage claims of the trade union movement are made to appear anti-social and selfish".

Mr. Dunstan said that the opposition conservative parties acted as if they had "an almost aristocratic right to govern in Australia".

"Mr. Peacock's condescending weekend statement that the Opposition 'would not force' an election over the so-called Vietnam letters issue is a typical example of the Opposition's arrogant bloody-mindedness".

"Mr. Malcolm Fraser is a perfect example: the aloof patrician politician whose political values were derived from a waffling notion of rugged individualism and silver-spoonism".

Mr. Dunstan said that one of the major political distortions achieved by the Opposition Parties was in the matter of wage-justice.

"They have described the Labor & Union Movement as politically authoritarian and lawless".

"They have constantly argued that the main cause of our current inflationary position is excessive union wage demands".

"This is not so. The truth is that there has been a massive redistribution of income in Australia from property owners to wage and salary earners".

"That is what has disturbed the Liberal and Country Parties and leads them to down-grade national priorities in areas like Social Services, Health Care and Education".

"It is clear that if Mr. Fraser's party regained power in Canberra, it would reverse this process of income redistribution with no regard to how great the hardship to the Australian worker would be".



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